

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 3-5, 15-23, 32, 33 and 35-43 are allowed.

Claims 1, 2, 6-13, 24-31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and under 35 U.S.C. §103 from Yang U.S. Patent No. 4,832,975. The Office notes applicants' previous observation that Yang discloses esterification and that esterification and interesterification are not equivalent reactions. The Office then states this position is not persuasive because these claims are directed to a product and not to a process. Applicants respectfully submit that in fact these claims are directed to a particular structured lipid that is interesterified. This is a difference in structure of the lipid, and applicants respectfully continue to believe the compositions of these claims prior to the present Amendment are novel and unobvious in view of this difference in structure.

Nevertheless, in order to expedite the prosecution of this application, and without prejudice to further pursue the rejected composition claims in a future application, all of the currently rejected claims are amended to be method claims or are made dependent on an allowed claim. These amendments are respectfully believed to be in direct response to the present

Office Action and its recognition of applicants' interesterification argument. Entry of same is respectfully requested under Rule 116.

More specifically, of the rejected claims, the present amendments are made:

<u>Claim</u>	<u>Amendment</u>
1	From composition to method claim.
2	From composition claim to method claim dependent on claim 1.
6-13, 24 & 25	Dependent on allowed composition claim 3.
27	Cancelled.
26, 28-31 & 34	From composition claims to method claims dependent on allowed method claim 35.

These currently amended claims fall into two basic categories. Claims 6-13, 24-26, 28-31 and 34 have been made dependent upon an allowed claim. Each of Claims 1 and 2 have been revised from a product claim to a method claim. It is respectfully asserted that placing such in a form dependent on an allowed claim and/or from product to method effectively is in compliance with a requirement of form and/or is an amendment necessitated by the direct statement in the Office Action that a basis for rejection of these claims is that they are directed to a product and not a process. See 37 CFR §1.116(b)(1) and (3).

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the §102 and §103 rejections from Yang are respectfully requested, as is allowance

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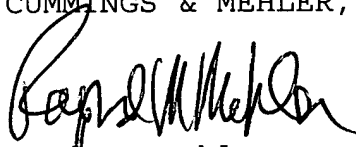
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of each of claims 1, 2, 6-13, 24-26, 28-31 and 34.

Applicants respectfully believe that each of claims 1-13, 15-26 and 28-43 is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raymond M. Mehler', is written over the printed name.

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